

SPC  
WORLD CULTURES (HUMA2323) COMMON  
COURSE SYLLABUS

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Department: Behavioral Sciences

Discipline: Humanities

Course Number: HUMA2323

Course Name: WORLD CULTURES

Credit: 3 Lecture, 0 Lab  
This course satisfies as a CORE course for “Language, Culture and Philosophy”

Prerequisites: “TSI Reading” restrictions for INET

Campuses: Internet, Reese, Levelland

Textbook: *\*\*See individual Instructor’s Syllabus\*\**

Course Description: (3:3:0) This course is a general study of diverse world cultures. Topics include cultural practices, social structures, religions, arts, and languages.

Course Purpose: This course is an introductory course designed to provide students with an understanding of how society is structured, as well as an understanding of the theories and language of anthropology. A holistic approach will be utilized to explore ideas of aesthetic and intellectual creation in order to understand the human experience across cultures

Course Requirements: To maximize the potential to complete this course, a student should attend all class sessions, complete all homework assignments, and complete all examinations. Internet courses require the work to be completed in specific time periods. The specific course requirements are listed on the individual instructor’s course information sheet.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of common terms and concepts associated with the study of world cultures
2. Articulate an informed personal response and critically analyze works in the arts and humanities from various world cultures
3. Demonstrate awareness of multiple cultural perspectives by comparing and contrasting the cultural expressions of diverse world communities
4. Analyze various cultures to navigate diverse cultural spaces and recognize different world views
5. Demonstrate an understanding of geography and the location of different cultural groups in the world

Core Objectives Addressed: [techniques vary by instructor]

- Communication Skills – to include effective written, oral, and visual communication (1,2,3,5)
- Critical Thinking Skills – to include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information (1,2,3,4,5)
- Social Responsibility – to include the demonstrated intercultural knowledge and competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national, and global communities (1,2,3,4,5)
- Personal Responsibility - to include the ability to connect choices, actions, and consequences to ethical decision-making (1,2,3,4,5)

**Standard Written English REQUIREMENT:**

All written assignments should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English. South Plains College requires all students to become proficient in "academic English," a form of English that is typically used in academic, professional, and business contexts. While slang, regional idioms, and informal kinds of self-expression are appropriate in some contexts, they are out of place in academic writing. Writing instructors and professors in courses across the campus expect all students to demonstrate proficiency in using the conventions of academic English in their written work, whether it is in-class exams or take-home essays. Each instructor may also add additional requirements regarding written assignments that are contained in your syllabus.

**Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend all classes in order to be successful in a course. The student may be administratively withdrawn from the course when absences become excessive as defined in the course syllabus.

When an unavoidable reason for class absence arises, such as illness, an official trip authorized by the college or an official activity, the instructor may permit the student to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to complete work missed within a reasonable period of time as determined by the instructor. Students are officially enrolled in all courses for which they pay tuition and fees at the time of registration. Should a student, for any reason, delay in reporting to a class after official enrollment, absences will be attributed to the student from the first class meeting.

Students who enroll in a course but have "Never Attended" by the official census date, as reported by the faculty member, will be administratively dropped by the Office of Admissions and Records. A student who does not meet the attendance requirements of a class as stated in the course syllabus and does not officially withdraw from that course by the official census date of the semester, may be administratively withdrawn from that course and receive a grade of "X" or "F" as determined by the instructor. Instructors are responsible for clearly stating their administrative drop policy in the course syllabus, and it is the student's responsibility to be aware of that policy.

It is the student's responsibility to verify administrative drops for excessive absences through MySPC using his or her student online account. If it is determined that a student is awarded financial aid for a class or classes in which the student never attended or participated, the financial aid award will be adjusted in accordance with the classes in which the student did attend/participate and the student will owe any balance resulting from the adjustment.

**Academic Appeals Procedure**

**INFORMAL APPEAL**

1. The student should schedule an appointment with the instructor of the course to discuss the final grade or discipline action.
2. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she should schedule an appointment with the appropriate department chairperson to discuss the situation. (The chairperson may request that the instructor also be present.)
3. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she should schedule an appointment with the Divisional Dean to discuss the situation. (The dean may request that the chairperson also be present.)
4. If the student is still not satisfied, he/she should be advised of the formal appeal process.

**FORMAL APPEAL**

1. If the student is not satisfied with the results of the Informal Appeal, he/she should provide the following information, in writing, to the Vice President for Academic Affairs:

a. A request for a formal appeals hearing. b. A brief statement of what is being appealed. c. The basis for the appeal. d. Pertinent facts relating to the appeal.

**NOTE:** The agenda of the appeals hearing will include only those factors documented in the student's appeal request letter.

2. The Vice President for Academic Affairs of South Plains College, will determine the date, time and place of the hearing, and notify the student accordingly.

**THE HEARING**

1. Composition of the appeals committee:

- a. Vice President for Academic Affairs will preside over the hearing. b. Faculty member of the student's choice. c. Faculty member and student of the Vice President for Academic Affairs. d. President of the Student Body/Student Advisory Council. e. Vice President of Student Affairs.
2. Other persons who should be available at the hearing:
  - a. The student who requested the hearing. b. The faculty member involved. c. Anyone the student or faculty member wishes to be present to substantiate the case. d. Chairperson and Divisional Dean.
3. Hearing Procedure: The Committee will hear the student's appeal during which the parties to the controversy, and such representatives as desired, will present all facts relating to the case. Consequently, the committee will recommend appropriate action by majority vote.
4. The termination of the hearing finalizes the academic appeal procedure.

#### APPEAL RESTRICTIONS

1. Only final grades or dismissal resulting from academic discipline will be considered.
2. The instructor's teaching ability or expertise will not be considered during the hearing.
3. No grade or disciplinary action can be formally appealed after a period of six (6) months from the date that the student is informed.

#### Tobacco Products:

South Plains College prohibits the use of any tobacco product, electronic cigarette, or vapor device throughout all indoor areas and within a 25 foot perimeter around all facility entrances, exits and HVAC air intake vents under the control of SPC, including sporting facilities and SPC vehicles. Included in this ban are tobacco products of all types (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco, snuff and all other kinds and forms of tobacco prepared in such a manner to be suitable for spit tobacco use, smoking, or both). This ban also includes herbal tobacco products and simulated tobacco products that imitate or mimic tobacco products such as e-cigarettes, vapor cigarettes, pipes or other types of inhalation devices.

#### Campus Concealed Carry Policy:

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in South Plains College buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and South Plains College policy, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations (Natatorium). For a list of locations and Frequently Asked Questions, please refer to the Campus Carry page at: <http://www.southplainscollege.edu/campuscarry.php>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all South Plains College campuses. Report violations to the College Police Department at 806-716-2396 or 9-1-1.

#### Title IX Pregnancy Accommodations Statement

If you are pregnant, or have given birth within six months, Under Title IX you have a right to reasonable accommodations to help continue your education. To activate accommodations, you must submit a Title IX pregnancy accommodations request, along with specific medical documentation, to the Director of Health and Wellness. Once approved, notification will be sent to the student and instructors. It is the student's responsibility to work with the instructor to arrange accommodations. Contact Crystal Gilster, Director of Health and Wellness at 806-716-2362 or email [cgilster@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:cgilster@southplainscollege.edu) for assistance.

#### Equal Opportunity /Non Discrimination Statement

South Plains College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Vice President for Student Affairs, South Plains College, 1401 College Avenue, Box 5, Levelland, TX 79336. Phone number 806-716-2360.

#### Diversity Statement

In this class, the teacher will establish and support an environment that values and nurtures individual and group differences and encourages engagement and interaction. Understanding and respecting multiple experiences and perspectives will serve to challenge and stimulate all of us to learn about others, about the larger world and about ourselves. By promoting diversity and intellectual exchange, we will not only mirror society as it is, but also model society as it should and can be.

#### Disabilities Statement

Students with disabilities, including but not limited to physical, psychiatric, or learning disabilities, who wish to request accommodations in this class should notify the Disability Services Office early in the semester so that the appropriate arrangements may be made. In accordance with federal law, a student requesting accommodations must provide acceptable documentation of his/her disability to the Disability Services Office. For more information, call or visit the Disability Services Office at Levelland (Student Health & Wellness Office) 806-716-2577, Reese Center (Building 8) 806-716-4675, or Plainview Center (Main Office) 806-716-4302 or 806-296-9611.

### **Instructor Policies: Wanda Clark, Ph.D.**

Contact Information: I can be contacted by using email in blackboard, text message via the Remind app, or by setting a time for a video conference using Blackboard Collaborate or Zoom. If you would like to arrange a video chat session in Blackboard Collaborate, please email or text a selection of times which are convenient for you and I will respond. Remember to plan ahead as I will not always be available for "instant" video conferences but am certainly more than willing to schedule "virtual office" hours to communicate with you or respond to questions. Email address: [wclark@southplainscollege.edu](mailto:wclark@southplainscollege.edu)

Thank You: *I consider it an honor that you have chosen to be in my course. I want to thank you in advance for the time and hard work that you will put into this learning experience. One of the keys to being successful in college is to maintain communication with your instructor. I wish you all the luck this semester and hope that the grade that you achieve in this course will reflect the effort you put into it.*

Attendance Policy: Since this course is a virtual classroom, attendance will be taken according to the following: 1. Participation in class discussion by posting to the discussion board. 2. Completing assignments before the midnight due dates. 3. Turning in writing activities/assignments on or before the midnight due date. Failure to log into Blackboard for 14 consecutive days and/or failure to complete assignments may result in being dropped from the course.

Late work: All work must be posted or emailed by the due dates on the calendar to receive full credit. Any late work submitted may receive no more than ½ credit at the discretion of the instructor. Excuses such as "The network was down," or "I could not figure out how to send the assignment through the assignments function" are not acceptable. In short, plan ahead and do not wait until the last minute to submit your assignments. It is always okay to turn in assignments early although discussion board postings should be done with the calendar schedule. No late credit will be provided for Inquisitive assignments. Discussion posts are the only type of work which may be accepted late and this is at the discretion of the instructor.

Free Points or "Get out of jail" option for Inquisitive assignments. You may use your "Get out of jail free" card twice during the semester for a missed Inquisitive assignment or a low score you would like to replace. You must send your requests within one week of the original due date to receive full credit for missed assignments/replacement assignments. Please send requests using the Blackboard email function. Essentially you have two "free passes" or the equivalent of two chapters that you may "opt out" of if you elect to do so. Each "jail card" is equivalent to one chapter's material or 20 points. Do not assume you will receive credit if you simply do not complete the assignments. You must send in a request to use these passes. A total of 40 points are available using these "free passes."

Administrative Drop Policy: Due to Financial Aid and South Plains College requirements for participation/attendance a student who fails to turn in 5 assignments during the semester may be dropped with a grade of "X" from the course. If missed assignments occur after the final drop date the grade will be "F." Assignments in this context refer to the written unit assignments/quizzes as well as Inquisitive assignments.

It is essential that you have reliable access to the Internet. It is not necessary to purchase or own your own computer, but you should have a backup plan in place should you encounter computer problems. Firefox is the recommended and supported browser for Blackboard. There are open computer labs available to all enrolled SPC students on all campuses. It is also the student's responsibility to have the required computer skills to complete this course. Should you encounter technical difficulties contact the instructor first, and/or the SPC technical support call (806) 894-9611, ext. 2180. Be sure to include course and section number information when contacting technical support.

Computer Requirements: Browser Plug-ins and Security Software: Most Web educational experience will require the use of several additional browser plug-ins. It is very highly recommended that you have an antivirus program on your computer. You may also need Adobe Acrobat for several readings and a multimedia player such as Windows Media Player. Firefox is the supported browser for Blackboard. Please download and use it! Since this course are entirely

online, participants are expected to have at least an elementary knowledge of their microcomputer operating system and basic knowledge of software and tools such as a word processor, email, an Internet browser, and search engines.

There are three regular types of assignments required for this course: Inquisitive assignments, unit quizzes which are timed, and discussion board writing assignments. There is also a term project.

**Inquisitive assignments:** Inquisitive assignments are adaptive, interactive learning assignments designed to enhance your learning experience. There is an Inquisitive assignment for how to use InQuizitive and then one for each of the chapters covered in this course. Inquisitive depends upon access to the Norton Publishing system, so an access code is required. Further information concerning Inquisitive is located in the Blackboard course.

**Discussion Board Postings:** For discussions there will be several questions or discussion prompts posted to the discussion board area. The first postings should be your own individual thoughts or comments relating the text material to the video (with appropriate page citations from the textbook). Then you should reply to two classmates to earn full points for this activity. The primary goal for this portion of the course is to "talk" about what you are learning so it is more appropriate to be informal and conversational in these assignments though I would still encourage you to avoid "text" language. In the initial posting your goal is to link the examples from the video to the concepts presented in the textbook. These textbook references should be cited using APA format. See the "citing sources" link for citation examples. This is also the place to include personal experiences and/or reactions. For the reply postings you should ask questions to encourage other students to think more deeply, constructively disagree at times, apply textbook/course information to others comments, and share your own experiences that relate to the topic of discussion. If you repeat yourself in reply messages you will only receive partial credit. Also, simply stating "I agree" is not detailed or complex enough to earn points. Discussion assignments are worth 50 points each.

Most discussion topics will require viewing a video and the links are provided in the discussion topics instructions. To receive the full 50 points for participation each assignment you must post an original message and two reply messages. Original message requirements: Due as indicated on the calendar at midnight. 200 – 250 words in length. Make direct connections between the video AND text information. Include personal experiences and/or reactions. Worth up to 40 points. Reply message requirements: Two replies are due at midnight as indicated on the course calendar (Min. 75 words each). Ask questions to encourage other students to think more deeply. Share your own experiences that relate to the topic of discussion. Constructively disagree at times. Refer to class course work (text or video information) and apply the information or ask other students how they are applying course information. If you repeat yourself in your reply messages you will not get credit for one of them. Worth up to 10 points You will not be given full credit for postings that do not meet the above criteria. Also, the use of short, choppy sentences put down that do not show careful thought will NOT earn you full credit. It is appropriate to use sentences like, "I agree" but those sentences do not meet the requirements for grading purposes.

Term Project options are listed under the appropriate learning unit tab. The due date is listed on the course calendar. You may select any of the options listed or consult with your instructor if you have other ideas about appropriate term projects. Please note the "preview" assignment as well as the actual project itself in terms of due dates on the course calendar. 120 points total.

All written assignments should be presented using the conventions of Standard Written English.

**Writing Tips:** 1. All written work should be typed, or computer generated with one-inch margins in a standard 12 pt. font. Please use Word for attachments. 2. Any references used should be listed at the end of the paper using APA style and within the body of the text according to APA procedure. *Using reference material without proper documentation constitutes plagiarism which is a serious academic offense.* Wikipedia is not considered a valid academic source. Do not use it! 3. For the assignments in this class, it is better to write using first or third person pronouns. Therefore, it is appropriate to use "I, me, mine" or "he, she, their, we." It is not appropriate to use "you" or "your." Please avoid writing in 2<sup>nd</sup> person. 4. Be sure to proofread your work for grammatical and spelling errors. Use the "enable html" button within the email, assignments, and discussion functions to run a spell check. Also remember that "healthy" paragraphs are usually comprised of at least three sentences organized around a central idea. Composing in Word will help catch common grammatical errors and is highly recommended. 5. Text message language and abbreviations are not standard written English and therefore are not acceptable in this course.

Grades: It is possible to earn up to 1000 points in this course.

- ✦ 4 unit quizzes (timed) @ 50 each= 200
- ✦ 6 discussion assignments @ 50 each = 300
- ✦ Introductions Module = 40
- ✦ 1 term project preview = 20
- ✦ 1 term project @ 100

Points necessary for each grade: A= 1000-900, B= 899-800, C= 799-700, D=699-600, F= 599 and below. Please print and use the grade calculator with the course calendar to keep a running total/average of your points for the course.